THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF THE ISLE OF AXHOLME

Annual Report

of the Medical Officer of Health

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

FOR THE YEAR 1952

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Caldicotts, Printers, Trinity Street, Gainsborough.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF THE

ISLE OF AXHOLME

1952

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor R. E. Cock, J.P. (Luddington).

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor Mrs. E. N. Johnson, J.P. (Belton).

Health Committee:

Councillor G. C. Hurst (Belton).
Councillor G. W. Chester (Crowle).
Councillor H. R O. Chipp (Haxey)
Councillor F. W. Clark (Crowle).
Councillor W. Cockin (West Butterwick).
Councillor S. T. Holmes (Owston Ferry).
Councillor W. Bradbury (Haxey).
Councillor J. T. C. Holliday (Crowle).
Councillor H. W. Clark (Belton).
Councillor J. W. Halkon (Garthorpe).
Councillor W. A. Pyecroft (Owston Ferry).
Councillor W. S. Cundall (Eastoft).
Councillor S. G. Slatford (Wroot).
Councillor Mrs. J. M. Macgregor (Epworth).
Councillor G. F. Stones (Althorpe).
Councillor A. L. Thornton (Amcotts).
Councillor G. Chessman, C.C. (Keadby).
Councillor H. A. Morris (Epworth).

Clerk of the Council:

S. W. Chester, Esq., A.C.C.S.

Staff of Public Health Department:

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J. C. Macartney.
Senior Sanitary Inspector: Mr. J. T. Battye.
Additional Sanitary Inspector: Mr. A. P. Allen.

ISLE OF AXHOLME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1952

To the Chairman and Members of the Isle of Axholme Rural District Council.

15th July, 1953

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1952.

It will be noticed that the Birth Rate (18.54) continues to remain at a very high level. The Death Rate (10.31) is smaller than that for all England and Wales. It is the lowest record in this District for many years. The Infantile Mortality Rate (48.7) appears high, but six of the twelve Infantile Deaths were due to congenital conditions and prematurity, which were mostly unpreventable. Had it not been for these, this record would have been excellent. The incidence of Infectious Diseases was very low and no outbreak of any significance occurred.

I am pleased to record that only one death was due to accidental causes during the year. None was due to Road Traffic. The previous year we had a total of nine accidental deaths, five of these being due to Road Traffic Accidents.

In conclusion I wish to thank Mr. Battye, Senior Sanitary Inspector, and all members of the Health and other Departments for their constant collaboration and help. I also express my gratitude to the members of the Council for their interest in health matters.

Yours obediently,

J. C. MACARTNEY,
M.D. (Edin.), Ch.B., D.P.H.

SECTION A.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Rural District	51,104 acres
Estimated Population	14,070
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1952	£36,870
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£138

The essential industry of the District is agriculture, with the usual small industries ancillary to agriculture. The drainage of the area has resulted in this becoming a very fertile food production district.

A large grain silo and seed dressing depot and a grass drying plant are at Epworth. Also a very large electricity generating station has been erected at Keadby for the British Electricity Authority. Other industries are Tillage Works, Brickyards, Agricultural Machinery work, and Builders' businesses.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	140	106	246
Legitimate	128	104	232
Illigitimate	12	2	14
Still Births	5	2	7
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illigitimate	1	—	1
Birth Rate, per 1,000 of Estimated Population			18.54

DEATHS.	Male	Female	Total
All Causes	84	72	156
Infants under one year	2	5	7
Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population			10.31
Infantile Mortality Rate			48.7

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

BIRTHS.

Year	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate
1952	140	106	246	18.54
1951	141	116	257	19.2
1950	125	133	258	18.2
1949	141	124	265	18.8
1948	145	110	255	18.58
1947	133	128	261	19.69
1946	140	150	290	22.96

DEATHS

Year	Male	Female	Total	Death Rate
1952	84	72	156	10.31
1951	107	86	193	12.6
1950	79	91	170	12.02
1949	89	93	182	12.2
1948	84	62	146	10.6
1947	86	76	162	12.22
1946	82	81	163	12.6

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(Deaths of Infants under one year).

Year	Total	‡Mortality Rate
1952	12	48.7
1951	10	38.9
1950	14	54.2
1949	9	33.9
1948	7	27.4
1947	14	53.6
1946	11	37.9

	†Birth Rate	†Death Rate	‡Infantile Mortality Rate
England and Wales	15.3	11.3	27.6
Isle of Axholme Rural District	18.54	10.31	48.7

† Rates per 1,000 Home Population.
‡ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Disease.	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1
Cancer	11	11	22
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular leisons of nervous system	13	11	24
Coronary disease, angina	20	11	31
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	2
Other heart disease	12	16	28
Other circulatory disease	4	2	6
Influenza	2	—	2
Pneumonia	—	2	2
Bronchitis	4	3	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	8	18
All accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
	84	72	156

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Health Information.

Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the Medical Officer of Health, 10/12, Lord Street, Gainsborough. The County Medical Officer is Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, O.B.E., County Offices, Lincoln. Many various facilities are available under the following headings:

Maternity Service.

Child Care.

Home Nursing.

Health Visitors.

Home Help.

Sick Room Requisites, appliances and other equipment.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Mental Health.

Ambulance Service.

Minor Ailment Clinics for School Children.

Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

The County Council's Clinics function in the Isle of Axholme at the following times and places:

HAXEY. **Memorial Hall.**

Combined Ante-Natal Clinic and Infant Welfare Centre.
10 a.m., 2nd and 4th Thursday in month.

EPWORTH. **Thurlow Methodist Schoolroom.**

Ante-Natal Clinics.
10 a.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesday in month.
Infant Welfare Centres.
2 p.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesday in month.

CROWLE. **Women's Institute.**

Ante-Natal Clinic.
10 a.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month.

Infant Welfare Centres.
2 p.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month

In addition to above, appointments can be arranged for school and pre-school children to be seen by specialists at Scunthorpe or Gainsborough Hospitals when necessary, in cases of eye, ear, nose and throat, rheumatism and heart conditions.

B. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

General Medical Care.

The Family Doctor.

Special Maternity Services apart from the Local Health Authority Service (General Practitioner Obstetrician).

Medicines, Drugs and Appliances.

Dentistry.

Supplementary Eye Service.

C. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

Hospital and Specialist Services.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is purchased in bulk from the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board on a long term agreement. Distribution is effected by means of two water towers, one situated at Haxey and the other at Crowle. In addition to supplying the domestic needs of the District the Council provides water to industries, a large number of farms for cattle and market gardening, government camps, etc. An extension scheme was also prepared for supplying water to outlying farms. Water is available and used in all the built-up portions of each parish, as well as to a large number of premises not in the built-up areas.

The average daily consumption is rapidly approaching the maximum quantity available. Proposals to increase the volume of supply have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Number of dwellinghouses	4,908
Number of these supplied from mains	3,995

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The recently completed works at Crowle continue to operate satisfactorily. Good progress is being made in connection with the provision of sewers and Disposal Works to serve the Parishes of Althorpe and Keadby, completion is anticipated early in 1953.

Schemes for the Parishes of Belton, Epworth, Haxey, Owston Ferry, Eastoft, West Butterwick and Wroot are being pressed forward for approval by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In each case every effort is being made to expedite the provision of sewerage facilities.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

TOTAL OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 135

(1) By the Local Authority 77

(2) By other Local Authorities 48

(3) By other bodies or persons 10

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 70

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 112

(2) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 29

(3) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 41

2 REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 11

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts ..... Nil

(b) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1936 ..... Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... Nil

(2) No. of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... Nil

(3) No. of dwellinghouses subject to undertakings 11

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936:

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... Nil

(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ..... Nil

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 and 26:

(1) No. of Clearance Orders made 2

(2) No. of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance thereof 2

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 — PART IV — OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ... 30

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 36

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 235

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... Nil

(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 1

The following figures give the progress of houses erected by the Council since 1945:—

Number of Council Houses erected prior to 1945	304
Number completed since 1945	411
Number under construction	75
Total	790

HOUSING PROGRAMME AT 31st MARCH, 1953.

	Post 1949 Houses Completed	Being Built	Total	Pre 1949 Houses	Tenders Obtained	Further Programme For 1953
Althorpe	48	52	100	10	—	—
Amcotts	16	—	16	2	—	2
Belton	48	5	53	30	—	—
Crowle	77	22	99	54	—	29
Eastoft	18	—	18	12	—	4
Epworth	58	10	68	46	—	25
Garthorpe	14	—	14	6	—	9
Haxey	52	16	68	40	—	17*
Keadby	18	—	18	8	—	—
Luddington	16	—	16	40	—	4
Owston Ferry	30	—	30	22	2	—
West Butterwick	12	—	12	16	—	21
Wroot	8	—	8	18	6	—
	415	105	520	304	8	111

* Provisional — dependent on Sewerage Scheme.

SECTION E

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

It is very satisfactory that no cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year, which reflects creditably on the high standard of Food Inspection and of Food Handling.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following diseases were notified in 1952:—

Whooping Cough	5
Scarlet Fever	27
Pneumonia	2
Measles	45
Diphtheria	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Total	88

A further suspected case of Poliomyelitis was removed to hospital but after observation the patient was discharged as having suffered from Influenza.

Particulars of Diptheria immunisations, vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out in the Isle of Axholme Rural District during 1952.

	Under five years of age	Between five and fourteen years of age	Boosting Doses	Total
Diphtheria Immunisations	74	53	198	325

	Under One	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinations	10	—	—	3	13
Re-vaccinations ...	1	—	1	5	7

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases).

Ages	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.
0—5	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	—	—	—
25—45	3	1	1	—
45—65	1	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	1	1	—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.
—	1	—	1

Total 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	5
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	3	—	1	5	—	1	3	7	5	27
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	—	—	—	2	—	—	8	9	2	—	24	—	45
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total	2	1	1	5	—	1	15	11	5	4	31	5	81

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES.

	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Measles	Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)
Althorpe	—	—	—	4	—	—
Belton	—	1	—	—	—	—
Crowle	1	—	—	15	—	—
Eastlound	—	—	—	2	—	—
Eastoft	1	—	—	2	—	—
Epworth	—	11	—	—	—	—
Haxey	1	13	2	—	1	—
Keadby	—	1	—	17	—	—
Luddington	—	—	—	3	—	—
Owston Ferry	2	—	—	—	—	—
Westwoodside	—	—	—	2	—	—
Wroot	—	1	—	—	—	1
	5	27	2	45	1	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948. **PART I OF THE ACT.**

1. **INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.**

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	12	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	26	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	20	54	Nil	Nil
Total	100	92	Nil	Nil

2. **Cases in which DEFECTS were found.**

	Want of Cleanliness	Sanitary Conveniences	Other offences against the Act (not relating to outwork)
Found	Nil	2	Nil
Remedied	Nil	2	Nil
Referred by H.M. Inspector	Nil	2	Nil
No. of prosecutions	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT. OUTWORK. **Sections 110 and 111.**

	Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	All other items
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	1	Nil
No. of defaults, prosecutions, notices served (under all headings)	Nil	Nil